

# POWER FOR TODAY

A magazine of understanding for our times

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SO CHRIST WAS SACRIFICED  
ONCE TO TAKE AWAY THE SINS  
OF MANY; AND HE WILL APPEAR  
A SECOND TIME...  
-HEBREWS 9:28



December 2010

# POWER FOR TODAY

A magazine of understanding for our times

November 2010 Vol. 9, No. 12

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*Neither shall they say, Lo, here! or Lo, there! For behold, the Kingdom of God is within you!*

—Luke 17:21

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## BIBLE TRANSLATION KEY:

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Holy Bible, Public Domain. Passages marked NIV are from the New International Version of the Holy Bible; passages marked TLB are from The Living Bible; passages marked ASV are from the American Standard Version; passages marked AMP are from the Amplified Bible, passages marked MOD are from the Holy Bible in Modern English, passages marked RSV are from the Revised Standard Version, passages marked TEV are from Today's English Version, passages marked ESV are from the English Standard Version of the Holy Bible, passages marked NASB are from the New American Standard Bible, passages marked CJB are from The Complete Jewish Bible, and passages marked TOB (Apocrypha) are from The Other Bible.



**Apostle Dr. Lee Ann B.  
Marino, Ph.D., D.D.**

Cover Article

## WHEN JESUS RETURNS

### **“Dear little 8 pound, 6 ounce baby Jesus...”**

In the movie “Talladega Nights: The Ballad Of Ricky Bobby,” Ricky Bobby’s character prays a particularly memorable grace prior to eating a holiday meal. Multiple times he addresses the prayer to “Dear Lord baby Jesus,” “Dear little baby Jesus,” “baby Jesus powers,” “tiny infant Jesus,” “Christmas Jesus,” “dear tiny Jesus in your golden fleece diapers and your tiny little balled-up fist,” “dear eight pound, six ounce newborn infant Jesus, don’t even know a word yet, just little infant so cuddly, but still omnipotent,” and “dear baby God.” When his wife pointed out to him that Jesus was no longer a baby and it was rather odd to keep praying to a baby, he defensively responded with, “I like the Christmas Jesus best, and I’m saying grace. When you say grace, you can say it to grown-up Jesus, or teenage Jesus, or bearded Jesus, or whoever you want.” When his wife’s father confronted him about Jesus being a man, Ricky Bobby says, “I like the Christmas version the best, DO YOU HEAR ME?!” This spun off into other various images people at the table had

of Jesus, including seeing Jesus in a tuxedo T-shirt which says “formal, but I like to party,” and his son saying he likes to picture Jesus as a ninja, fighting off evil samurai! As if this wasn’t bad enough, one at the table said they like to picture Jesus with huge golden wings, singing lead for Lynrd Skynrd, like an angel band!

Most people see a spectacle such as this and laugh at the various innuendos present. Others see it as a total blasphemy and disregard for the power of prayer and the ability to call on the Name of the Lord. No matter how any one of us may feel about the holidays, prayer, or theology, we can see serious theological flaws in the dinner prayer in “Talladega Nights.” The character’s responses to Jesus resound a total distortion of Jesus in His personage and ministry. No matter how many years pass, how many other images will come along of Christ, or how many he’s seen, “Christmas Jesus” will forever be his favorite, the eternal image of a baby in a manger rather than a returning King.

Many echo similar thoughts about Jesus. The idea of embracing Jesus as a baby

rather than a grown Savior is more appealing because we idolize the newness of life presence in babies. They enjoy the idea of Jesus as formidable and controllable as an infant. The idea of Jesus returning as a King, in power and great glory, coming as a judge and ruler, does not appeal to those who do not desire to confront themselves or their lack of obedience. As a result, they have created doctrines to conform to their comforts.

There is clear confusion in the world about Jesus’ return and His nature now. Many believe Jesus is returning as a baby, to start life over again, in a sort of reincarnation sense. They see the Christmas holiday not just as an advance of the first advent, but the second as well. Others believe Jesus is returning to usher in a “new age” where all religions come to recognize commonalities and all other religious leaders shall also return and usher in an age of “enlightenment.” Some believe Jesus is coming back to redeem them exclusively, damning the rest of existence to hell or a state of non-existence. Still others believe Jesus’ return is nonexistent, a mere figment of clever imagery, and He will never come back and therefore it’s irrelevant how He shall return or what He will do once He is here.

Our image of Jesus is very important, especially as we recognize He is coming again very soon. We need to know Who we are looking for, and how He shall come in His return. How do you regard Jesus? When you pray to Him, do you see a baby in a manger, or a powerful, soon-returning Savior? Every year people remember Jesus as a baby in a manger...but how often do we consider and remember Jesus is coming back in glory and power?

### **He shall return as He ascended**

Many of us have varied images of Jesus that carry us throughout our lives. Different people see Jesus as different races, different nationalities, different sizes and shapes, different cosmetic features, and different ages. Images of Jesus have transcended every culture and race the world over. With so many different images of Jesus, how will He

*(Continued on page 4)*

## WHEN JESUS RETURNS

(Continued from page 3)

look when He returns?

In Acts 1:6-11, we receive poignant words: ***“Then they gathered around Him and asked Him, ‘Lord, are You at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He said to them: ‘It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ After He said this, He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ‘Men of Galilee,’ they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, Who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.”*** (NIV) In this one passage, we learn a lot about the return of Jesus Christ. The first thing we learn is that He will indeed come again. While we do not know when that time will be, as it is at the Father’s choosing, we do have full assurance He shall return unto us. The Second Coming was not the resurrection, as these words were spoken after the resurrection. Jesus will be back, as made in His promise, and not figuratively. If He is to return as they saw Him ascend, He is not going to be returning as a ghost or mere spiritual presence. He will look as He did and be just as real as He was back then. Jesus will return and we shall see Him again, and He shall again stand upon the earth.

Even though we don’t know exactly how Jesus looked because there were no cameras in the first century, there are many indications we have as to His physical appearance. We can say, with assurance, Jesus will not return to earth as a baby. Hebrews 9:28 says, ***“So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and He will appear a***

***second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.***” (NIV) As comforting as “Christmas Jesus” may be to many, that specific imagery of Christ does not apply to the Second Coming or how Christ will look or be when He returns.

Contrary to the popular images we have of Christ, He wasn’t a blonde-hair, blue-eyed European, nor was Jesus of African descent. Jesus was of Semetic descent, which meant He had olive-toned skin, dark hair, and dark eyes. As that was His appearance upon ascension, it’s reasonable to suggest He will still bear that resemblance somewhat upon His return. Revelation 1:12-16 describes Christ in the following way: ***“ I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and among the lampstands was someone like a Son of Man, dressed in a robe reaching down to His feet and with a golden sash around His chest. The hair on His head was white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In His right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of His mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.”*** (NIV) Clearly Jesus Christ is returning in power and great glory!

### Identifying Jesus

People have believed the Second Coming would happen in their lifetime for over one thousand years. By mistaking signs of their times, many of these people have been misled into believing other individuals were Jesus in the Second Coming. As we know from earlier in this article that Jesus shall return as He ascended, we can trust that Jesus will not return in the body of a different person. The Bible, in fact, warns us against Christ counterfeits that will come, claiming to be Jesus, but in fact, be sent by Satan for deception: ***“At that time if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘Look, there he is!’***

***do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.”*** (Mark 13:21-22, NIV) Clearly we need to beware those who claim to be Jesus, the Christ, or some sort of concoction of Jesus in a human person. In the past two hundred years alone, people have believed Jesus “returned” in the form of a Persian charlatan, an elderly Korean man, a Hispanic counterfeit, and a necromancer - only to name a few. There are so many who come in the name of Christ, going as far as claiming to be Him, that we can never be too alert to prevent deception.

The reality of people trying to imitate Christ, versus other religious figures, should give us a keen sight to the truth present in His life, death, and resurrection. It also makes us keenly aware of His prophetic words and the true impact He has had on humanity. These false individuals also point us to a greater reality and bigger spiritual picture: ***“But in those days, following that distress, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’ At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And He will send His angels and gather His elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.”*** (Mark 13:23-27, NIV) Seeing the rise of people who claim to be Christ, but are not, is a sign that the return of Jesus is in process, and will come very soon.

Knowing the process and prophecies of the Savior help us to recognize Him, all the more, upon His return. What keys exist that help us to better identify Him at His second coming?

### Notable factors of the second coming

The same passage, mentioned above, states that Jesus shall come with the clouds, in great power and glory. This tells us the return of the Lord shall be a grand arrival, where He is seen in the clouds as a Ruler, King, Priest, and Prophet. He is returning not alone, but with His angels as well. This is to be no small event! It is not as simple as birth and life, nor as simple as just being a

**AS COMFORTING AS “CHRISTMAS JESUS” MAY BE TO MANY, THAT SPECIFIC IMAGERY OF CHRIST DOES NOT APPLY TO THE SECOND COMING OR HOW CHRIST WILL LOOK OR BE WHEN HE RETURNS.**

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## Why does God allow natural disasters, such as earthquakes?

We learn in God's Word that the voice of the Lord is heard through nature. From the very beginning of time, nature has been a means by which God communicates through humanity, including His message of salvation. While people have not always understood God's messages present in creation, God has still conveyed powerful and important messages to the people of this world through natural means.

In creation, we understand God has fixed and established the universe on certain principles. Today we understand these principles to be scientific in nature, which means they are universally accepted and unchangeable. Gravity, which holds us in place, is an unchangeable principle. The cycle of seasons and weather patterns is an unchangeable principle. Beneath the surface of the earth lies plates which give the continents and islands, as we know them, their shape and have formed many natural wonders we see, such as lakes and rivers.

This all sounds good...so why do bad things happen in nature? As earthquakes are caused by the shifting of plates, why doesn't God stop the earthquake? As tsunamis are caused by intense ocean currents, why doesn't God stop the ocean waves from forming? If God is good, why does He allow His creation to do these things?

To ask why is a probing question that requires a deeper understanding of God and His ways. If God were to stop every natural disaster, that would mean He would have to stop the natural reactions behind them. For example, to stop an earthquake, God would have to change the way the plates in the earth function. Doing this would make God changeable, which, according to His Word, He changes not. It would also set off a complex chain of events which would require an entire re-ordering of nature.

If God is our Creator, that tells us the reason certain elements of nature are set up as they are is so He can speak to us through them. While God is certainly not punishing humanity through natural disasters or natural problems, He is seeking to speak to us through them. When God established these precepts, they ensured proper respect for nature, a fear and love for Him, and a sound desire that people would hear God's voice and hearken them unto obedience in every natural encounter.

## Ask The Apostle Questions And Answers



The Bible also tells us natural disasters, such as earthquakes and famines, shall increase in the last days. Part of the reason why these shall increase, as they are so doing, is due to the greed and abuse of God's planet by human beings. It is not God's fault that various natures have imposed their will of greed and tyranny over poorer nations and restricted food limits to famined lands. It is also not God's fault that human beings have exhausted natural resources, over-populated and over-built, and over-exerted nature's capacities. When faced with this reality, it is truly God's voice speaking when over-population causes the earth's plates to shift due to the imposing weight upon them.

As God put humanity in a garden and gave them the responsibility to care for it, He has also provided a natural communication system by which nature lets humanity know when it is unhealthy, taxed, over-imposed, or stripped. It is essential that, instead of trying to constantly force the earth to conform to human whim, that we listen to this built-in communication as a sign from God that we must examine and change our ways.

In these last days, we understand God calling humanity one final time to repentance and truth, turning from sin and unto righteousness. As we watch the hustle and bustle of society and the complications created from massive strains upon the earth for multiple generations, we are going to hear more from the earth as it is misused and abused by sinful men and women. The earth cries to us, and

God cries out through the earth, to call us to examine our ways and actions.

While an earthquake or other natural disaster may seem unjust to us, we should step back and consider: how many of our ways are unjust before God? So many use natural disasters as a way to justify disbelieving in God or to distort Him as unkind, unloving, and unjust. How completely unfair an assessment! As sinners, God is letting humanity know their behavior and treatment of the earth is displeasing to Him and that we must change our ways.

Natural disasters are a call to examine ourselves, not the kindness or mercy of God. In every natural disaster, the kindness and mercy of God is seen in the thousands of people who step up to help, assist, and lend a hand to strangers they have never met. It is seen in those who remain steady in these difficulties, and come out positive on the other side. It is seen in the testimonies of overcomers and those who have heard His voice to bring about positive change in their lives.

Natural disasters are allowed because they are a call to change. Have you heeded the call yet?

### **As Christians, how do we respond to the call to love our neighbor that is different from us?**

God never specified we had to like everyone or agree with everything they do in their lives. There are many things that separate people in this world, and also that can be a potential source of separation. Language differences, cultural barriers, fashion differences, and different understandings all have the potential to cause people to stand apart from one another. What God asks us to do is look beyond the immediate differences people have and truly love who they are because they are created in His image. We are called to seek the best for them, encourage them, and represent the reality that, despite our differences, God is the Lord of all, ready and willing to accept all cultures, languages, and people who will come unto Him.

We love our different neighbors by being the type of people God has called us to be in each and every life circumstance.

*(Do you have a question you want to ask Apostle Dr. Lee Ann? Send it to us at [questions@powerfortoday.org](mailto:questions@powerfortoday.org).)*

# 2010 In Review

J.D. Sallinger dies **Spain takes over presidency of the Council of the European Union** 7.0 magnitude earthquake hits Haiti, killing over 230,000  
2010 WINTER OLYMPICS HELD IN CANADA President of Niger overthrown Rue McClanahan dies 8.8 magnitude hits Chile, one of the largest recorded in history Teddy Pendergrass dies **Scientists create functional synthetic genome** European debt crisis worsens 2010 FIFA World Cup won by Spain Belgium takes over presidency of the Council of the European Union  
FIRST 24-HOUR FLIGHT OF A SOLAR POWERED PLANE COMPLETED **Ronnie James Dio dies** **Seven people dead and 100 people missing after landslide in Oaxaca, Mexico** NETHERLANDS ANTILLES dissolved  
7.0 earthquake strikes Christchurch, New Zealand **Wikileaks leaks over 90,000 internal reports about the United States-led involvement in the War in Afghanistan from 2004 to 2010** Corey Haim dies WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION DECLARES H1N1 INFLUENZA PANDEMIC OVER 33 miners trapped 700 meters underground in mining accident in San José Mine are rescued after surviving underground for record 69 days **Eddie Fisher dies** DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL PLATFORM EXPLODES IN THE GULF OF MEXICO, KILLING ELEVEN WORKERS; RESULTING OIL SPILL IS ONE OF THE LARGEST IN HISTORY *Jill Clayburgh dies after 21-year battle with leukemia* **6.9-magnitude earthquake hits Qinghai, China, killing at least 2,000 and injuring more than 10,000** VOLCANIC ASH FROM ICELAND'S EWJAFJALLAJÖKULL ERUPTIONS DISRUPTS AIR TRAFFIC ACROSS EUROPE Tom Bosley dies  
Heavy monsoon rains cause flooding in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, causing more than 1,600 deaths and 1 million displaced **Sumatra, Indonesian earthquake and tsunami kills over 400 people and leave hundreds missing** STEPHEN J. CANNELL dies Finance ministers of the G-20 agree to reform the International Monetary Fund, shifting 6% of voting shares to developing nations  
Ethnic riots in Kyrgyzstan between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks kill hundreds Tony Curtis dies **Longest annular solar eclipse of the 3rd millennium** **Jean Simmons dies** Power For Today Magazine celebrates 100th edition Burj Khalifa, the tallest man-made structure to date, opens in Dubai, UAE Lena Horne dies  
PRESIDENT LECH KACZYŃSKI DIES IN PLANE CRASH IN RUSSIA

# Thy Word Is A Lamp

## Studies in the book of Psalms

### Psalm 19: The Beauty of God's Law, Part 2 (Verses 7-9)

The first half of Psalm 19 glorifies God in His natural creation. In understanding God speaks through creation, the Psalmist now turns to glorifying God in His law. Just as the Psalmist saw God in creation powerfully, so does the Psalmist recognize we need God's guidance for life and right living. While nature was God's first revelation of Himself, it is not His exclusive revelation.

The Law of God is frequently spoken of as perfection in the Scriptures. The Law of God was and is perfect because it is a divine representation of God's complete nature. It shows forth justice, principle, character, love, consideration, holiness, and righteousness. Those who read God's law or experience it in some way see its value and are drawn to it because it brings about conviction of sin. Staring face-to-face with a perfect law makes even the best person recognize the sinfulness and wrongdoing in their lives, and makes them realize they need a Savior. This process begins the conversion of the soul, by which one repents, changes their sinfulness, and joins the ways of the Lord.

The Psalmist also makes it clear that God's Word is sure. His testimony of promises, salvation, history, events, and the whole encompassing of His word is good. When we understand His Word, His precepts, His law, and His testimony, we are made wise. It is not about how much education we have in the natural, but the amount of spiritual understanding we have about God and His ways, and how well we understand and execute those ways in our life. God's precepts are not hard to understand, but do require application. (verse 7)

God's precepts are never wrong. Doing what God asks and requires of us should bring us gladness, no matter how others respond to it. In obeying God, we are bringing about power and life to ourselves. It is essential we recognize God's commandments as pure, bringing light and joy to the entire person.

They are not given to us because God is mean, judgmental, or doesn't desire us to enjoy life. Because God's commandments are pure, they bring a perspective of light to the soul. They lead us unto right living, and the power of His true salvation. The commandments of God are a piece of eternity standing before our eyes, here and now, opening us up to the power and truth of eternal righteousness. (verse 8)

The word "fear" in this passage refers to holy and reverential awe, recognizing the greatness of God and standing in awe of His power. It is a clean, pure, honorable thing to do, with no sin or wrongdoing attached to it. There is no shame in fearing the Lord our God. It is a blessed thing to know who God is and love Him, honoring Him with our worship and obedience. Such fear and obedience endures always, into the end of time, because it is a piece of eternity. As we stand, recognizing God as we can, we are participants in eternal life.

Recognizing God's judgments as true and righteous in their entirety is often another matter entirely for believers. It is very difficult for believers to accept God's will, especially when it involves pain, suffering, or difficulty. We do not like the idea of justice equating to something that makes life harder for us. Because we are unable to see God's "bigger picture" when we go through trials, we don't understand the reasons behind what we go through. We also dislike it when God does not act as we would desire on our behalf. In the end, we trust God, and His judgments, and understand even though we don't understand, in the picture of eternity, He is fully just, righteous, and true, even in His judgments. (verse 9)



## Scripture

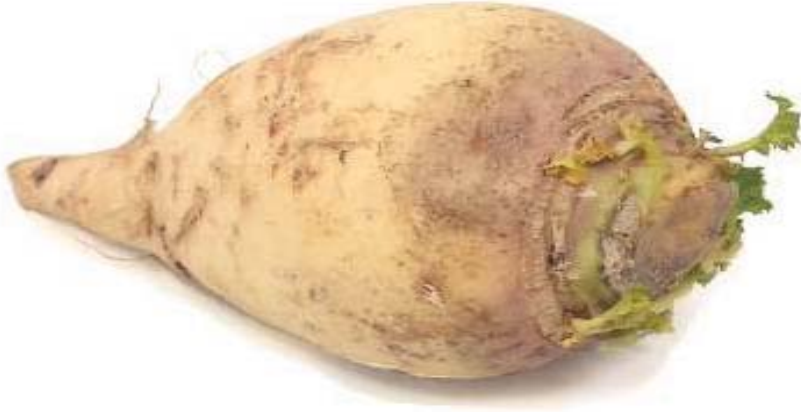
### Trivia

#### DID YOU KNOW...

- Unleavened bread and bitter herbs were both to be included as part of the Passover celebration
- To save her home from destruction, Rahab tied a scarlet cord to her window
- The Bible tells us to keep God's law as the apple of our eye
- Paul gives a message to the Corinthians about God's wisdom
- Joseph of Arimathea owned the tomb where Jesus was buried
- Jesus was on the cross for six hours
- The Gospel of Matthew contains the fullest account of the Sermon on the Mount
- Joseph and Mary offered two birds at Jesus' presentation
- Jesus referred to a mulberry tree when His disciples asked Him about faith
- Jonah was sent by God to Nineveh to cry against its wickedness
- Joshua cursed the man who would attempt to rebuild Jericho
- Moses stood before the burning bush in Horeb
- The book of Joshua describes the Euphrates river as "the great river"

# Wellness And The Word

Contributed this month by Nina B. Marino, RN, LNC and Apostle Dr. Lee Ann B. Marino, Ph.D., D.D.



## Ravishing Rutabagas: Seasonal Vegetable

Rutabagas are a vegetable we primarily hear about during the late fall and winter months. They are somewhat neglected the rest of the year. Rutabagas are root vegetables that originated as a cross between the cabbage and the turnip. It was first noted in Sweden as growing wild. It is thought to have been originated in Scandinavia or Russia. It was introduced into England in the 18th century but is thought to actually have been there as early as the 1600s. It came to North America in the early 19th century with reports that crops were planted in Illinois as early as 1817. The roots are prepared in a variety of ways and the leaves can also be eaten as a vegetable. Rutabagas are rich in Vitamin C. It has small amounts of Vitamin E, Vitamin K, Thiamin, Riboflavin, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Folate, Choline, and potassium. It also contains fiber. Rutabagas are cooked in a variety of ways. They can be boiled, mashed, roasted, used as fillers in such foods as mincemeat and cakes. In the United States, they are mostly eaten as part of stews, casseroles,

*mashed with carrots, or baked in pastries. They can be used in most dishes that call for a root vegetable. Rutabagas have a very distinct flavor of their own. The flavor is hard to describe. It is pungent, yet keeps one with the desire for having more. So come on out there, live a little! Live dangerously! Get some rutabagas. Cook them up! Fix them like mashed potatoes with a little butter, and enjoy!*

## Rutabaga Recipes

### Sausage and Vegetable Stovie

(Recipe courtesy allrecipes.com)

#### Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 large onions, coarsely chopped
- 1 pound fresh pork sausage links
- 3 large potatoes, cubed
- 2 carrots, sliced
- 2 rutabagas, peeled and cubed
- 1/3 cup chicken stock
- 1/4 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce (optional)
- salt and pepper to taste

1. Heat the vegetable oil in a large pot with a tight fitting lid over medium-high heat. Cut the pork sausages in half

and gently place into the pot. Cook the sausages for a few minutes until they begin to brown on all sides, then add the onions, and cook until the onions begin to brown, about 5 minutes.

2. Gently stir the potatoes, carrots, and rutabagas into the sausage and onion mixture, then pour in the chicken stock and Worcestershire sauce; season to taste with salt and pepper. Bring to a simmer, then reduce the heat to medium-low, cover, and cook until the sausages are no longer pink in the center, the vegetables are tender, and the stock has been mostly absorbed, 25 to 30 minutes. If you wish, add additional chicken stock to make the dish saucier.

### Oven Roasted Root Vegetables

(Recipe courtesy allrecipes.com)

#### Ingredients

- Vegetable cooking spray
- 3 medium red potatoes, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 cups fresh OR frozen whole baby carrots
- 1 pound celery root (celeriac), peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 (3 pound) rutabaga, peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 medium red onions, cut into wedges
- 2 medium parsnips, peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 5 cloves garlic, cut into thin slices
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary leaves or fresh thyme leaves
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup Swanson® Vegetable Broth or Chicken Broth (regular or Certified Organic)

1. Heat the oven to 425 degrees F. Spray a 17x11-inch roasting pan or shallow baking sheet with the cooking spray.

2. Stir the potatoes, carrots, celery root, rutabaga, onions, parsnips, garlic, rosemary and oil in the prepared pan. Roast the vegetables for 30 minutes. Pour the broth over the vegetables and stir.

3. Roast for 20 minutes more or until the vegetables are fork-tender.

# Watch On The World

**Examining current social, political,  
and religious events**

## **High court allows gay military ban for now**

*The Supreme Court on November 12 allowed the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy on gays in the military to remain in place while a federal appeals court considers the issue.*

*The court did not comment in denying a request from the Log Cabin Republicans, a gay rights group, to step into the ongoing federal court review of “don’t ask, don’t tell.” The Obama administration urged the high court not to get involved at this point.*

*Last month, a federal judge ruled that the policy violates the civil rights of gay Americans and she issued an injunction barring the Pentagon from applying it. But the San Francisco-based appeals court said the policy could remain in effect while it considers the administration’s appeal.*

*President Barack Obama has pledged to push lawmakers to repeal the law in the lame-duck session before a new Congress is sworn in. But administration lawyers have in the meantime defended “don’t ask, don’t tell” in court.*

*The policy, which prohibits gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military, was lifted for eight days in October after U.S. District Judge Virginia Phillips ruled that it is unconstitutional. The Obama administration asked the appeals court to reinstate the ban until it could hear arguments on the broader constitutional issues next year.*

*Justice Elena Kagan did not take part in the court’s consideration of the issue. Kagan served as the administration’s chief Supreme Court lawyer before she became a justice in August.*

- <http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20101112/>



[ap\\_on\\_go\\_su\\_co/us\\_supreme\\_court\\_gays\\_in\\_military](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20101112/ap_on_go_su_co/us_supreme_court_gays_in_military)

## **Online outrage follows UK’s “twitter joke trial”**

*He missed the plane. Now thousands of annoyed Internet users say authorities missed the joke.*

*When Paul Chambers was arrested and fined for posting a jocular message to micro-blogging site Twitter in which he threatened to blow up northern England’s Robin Hood Airport if it didn’t reopen in time for his flight, it caused a minor stir.*

*Now that a court has turned down his appeal, the Internet has come alive with outrage, with thousands of online fans posting comic threats to the regional airport out of solidarity.*

*The act of online revolt — the AP counted some 5,000 posts carrying the “IAmSpartacus” tag within two hours — seems to have cowed authorities. A spokeswoman for South Yorkshire Police, which originally arrested Chambers, scoffed and said “no” when asked if police planned on arresting any of Chambers’ online fans.*

*But she refused to answer when asked why the thousands of jokey threats to blow Robin Hood Airport “sky high” would be treated any differently than Chambers’ original tweet, which resulted in his arrest.*

*The Spartacus reference was Twitter’s*

*top trending subject worldwide, while rights groups back in Britain weighed the implications of Chambers’ failed appeal — warning that the so-called “Twitter Joke Trial” had set an ugly precedent for free speech online.*

*Police and prosecutors “seem to have completely ignored the notion of context, which is a very dangerous thing,” said Pdraig Reidy of the London-based Index on Censorship. “If he genuinely intended to blow up the airport, he wouldn’t have tweeted it. It’s obviously a joke.” Many have added the tag “IAmSpartacus” to their posts — a reference to the Stanley Kubrick’s 1960 epic “Spartacus,” in which the titular hero’s fellow rebels all assume his identity in a gesture of solidarity.*

*Chambers’ lawyer, David Allen Green, said his client’s case should never have gone to court.*

*According to accounts carried on Green’s blog and in the British media, the 27-year-old was alarmed when heavy snow closed Robin Hood Airport, which he was due to fly out of in order to see a friend he’d met online.*

*In a profane message posted to dozens of followers on Jan. 6, he stated: “Robin Hood Airport is closed. You’ve got a week and a bit to get (it) together, otherwise I’m blowing the airport sky high!!”*

- [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20101112/ap\\_on\\_hi\\_te/eu\\_britain\\_twitter\\_threat](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20101112/ap_on_hi_te/eu_britain_twitter_threat)

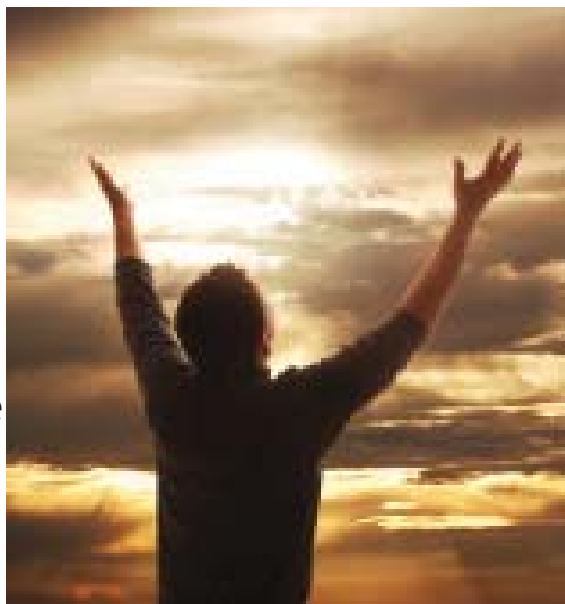
# Why Men Can't Run And Preachers Can't Worship!

By Brother Paul B. Thomas

I was at a church this weekend where there was a guest preacher. The women got involved in the praise and worship, they got behind the preacher in his ministry and worshipped the Lord. The men I noticed only came alive when it was their time to step into the pulpit and say something. When it came to worship, the men were uninvolved, apathetic, quiet and had an attitude.

The praise and worship leader discussed this with me and shared her frustration. She said "How can they just sit there when God has done so much more for us?" My reply: "Maybe they have yet to go through some junk in order for God to develop in them an appreciative spirit! Secondly, men often have a pride issue

when they don't have a platform they feel rejected and get an attitude. The only way a man can deal with this is to repent and if they can't see their



need to repent, then they can't see the pride that is causing them to exalt themselves before God!"

I've seen pastors sit down in big chairs on the platform, while the rest of the church stand with lifted hands before God in worship. I've known a man who did not come to church because a

woman was speaking, what's more that woman was his wife! I've seen men want to quit ministry because ministry is too tough for them and they are not getting the recognition they thought they deserved.

Men, it's time to ask ourselves, why do we want attention? Why do we want the platform? Why do you want recognition and titles? Why can't a man just serve God for who he is, or have we got to have position in the church in order to be extravagant in our praise? Or is it a pride issue?

If so, repent! You've made a god out of your title, your position and your status. Repent! Repent while you are able to repent. For tomorrow your heart may be harder and your indifference stronger. Repentance is a sure way to promotion, while pride will bring ruin and destroy everything you've ever built.



**Brother Paul B. Thomas is a Missionary Evangelist who has pastored in the UK. He has a passion to help folks discover their destiny, purpose and ministry in the kingdom. His true passion is revival, 'acts' style. To contact Brother Paul, visit his webpages, [www.imagebreakers.org](http://www.imagebreakers.org) or [www.preachloud.com](http://www.preachloud.com).**

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**Fridays, 11:00 AM EST** - Power For Today on Apostolic University Radio, [www.blogtalkradio.com/apostolicuniversity](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/apostolicuniversity) (30 minutes)

**Last Sunday of the Month, 9 PM EST** - The Winds of Change Live program on The Winds of Change Radio, [www.blogtalkradio.com/powerfortoday](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/powerfortoday) (60 minutes)

**December 1-** Power For Today Magazine available online ([www.powerfortoday.org](http://www.powerfortoday.org), [powerfortoday.magcloud.com](http://powerfortoday.magcloud.com), [issuu.com/powerfortoday](http://issuu.com/powerfortoday)) and by email distribution.

**December 5** - Apostle's birthday

**December 20-31** - Apostolic Fellowship International Ministries' office closed for winter break and recording sessions



## *Interview With Dr. Ezekiel Edumoh, Part 2*

**By Apostle Dr. Rebecca Michael**

The following is an interview between Editor Ap. Dr. Rebecca Michael and Chaplain General Dr. Ezekiel Edumoh Sept. 2010:

**Rebecca Michael says-**

What is Nigeria like? What does a typical day for you consist of right now, Ezik?

**Ezekiel Edumoh says-**

Today, Becky, Nigeria is a very peaceful nation, considerably normal life of any nascent democracy is thriving. My day is usually very busy. I teach 5 classes of 4 hours each week plus administrative work including that of the Executive Director of Wholesome Words Mission International Inc, an interdenominational ministry that puts me at the mentoring of over 600 Pastors. It will interest you to note that I double as the President of Grace Bible Institute and Seminary and the Senior Pastor of Grace Missionary Chapel. Typically, every Monday, I preach to the stud-

ents at 9-10.30am and by 3-5pm I have a leadership class and by 6-8pm I teach Bible class in the church. Tuesdays to Saturdays are very busy as I also take outside appointments to preach and teach the Word of God.

**Rebecca Michael says-**

What was it like for you growing up in Nigeria and practicing as a Minister there when you went to the USA to complete your Masters degree- both on the pro side and the con?

**Ezekiel Edumoh says-**

Becky, this is hard to say, but I must say that it was the hand of God that helped me to be where I am today. In a land where people are very ambitious to make money fast through whatever means, the Lord faithfully helped me to go through my ministry preparation in prayers, patience and perseverance. In the USA I found myself in abject poverty in the midst of plenty. I had \$75 to buy food, clothes, drugs and writing

materials for Seminary. I thank God that such was also part of the training God had meant for me to go through. I am grateful to Him for preparing me for the kind work He called me to.

**Rebecca Michael says-**

Have you written some books?

**Ezekiel Edumoh says-**

Yes, I have published three books, *Unleashing the Prophets, Break Free and Stay Free* and *The Mind of the Pharisees*. I co-authored with my American friend, Rev. Larry Grabill the book, *Things Come Together*.

**Rebecca Michael says-**

You started a non-profit Ministry some years ago named WWOMI which has evolved in to several different Ministry arms- for education, Church and now Chaplaincy. Can you explain how this all came about and developed?

**Ezekiel Edumoh says-**

WWOMI is truly a demonstration of what God can do through the life of those who let Him. The burden of helping upcoming ministries grow was paramount on my mind when the Lord called me. As I began to develop the ministry Wholesome Words Mission came into my heart heavily. The need to preach the wholesome words of Christ weighed me down and through prayers and waiting; the Lord gave instructions and showed me what He had called me to do. I now see that THIS IS AN Apostolic calling and WWOMI is an apostolic ministry. The vision is to raise men and women of dominion who will win in life and ministry. Without doubt GBIS is giving the sound theological training in a biblical holiness background and in a very exciting environment. Many ministries, schools and churches have been birthed through this ministry. We have been a blessing to thousands

*(Continued on Page 17)*

# *The Right To Entitlement*

By Nina B. Marino, RN, LNC



The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines "entitlement" in the following ways: 1) The state or condition of being entitled; rights and benefits specified by law or contract. 2) A government program with privileges and benefits to a specific group; also, funds supplied or distributed by such a program: 3) A belief that one is deserving or entitled to certain privileges. Time was entitlement related to people of royalty - kings, queens, princes, etc. Well! Have I got news for you! The issue of entitlement is no longer limited to a privileged group or those of rich persuasion. It appears now to be the trend that encompasses all people. It knows no color, no race, no monetary bounds and includes people of all ages. Entitlement reigns among all peoples. I can personally attest to this without any doubts. I work in a business office where the majority of people I come in contact with everyday feel entitled and demand to be waited on immediately, if not sooner. They expect complete and instant attention. They are pompous, rude, sarcastic, demanding, and have no concept of what it means to "listen." They never allow you to speak. They talk over

you and obviously are not listening to anything being said to them. They want what they deem they are entitled to, and what's more, they want it "now," better yet, "yesterday." It doesn't matter that I am not the one who makes the rules; i just relate them. They continually shoot the messenger; they just don't care. Their entitlements are all that matter.

Everyday I encounter the entitled client. Most of the clientele who frequent the office are not an emergency situation. The primary focus of the establishment is durable medical equipment. The staff is well-educated in the area of serving those who present emergency circumstances and follow through accordingly. The majority of clients are not emergencies, and yet, the majority of patrons have the entitlement syndrome. It is a difficult task to discern who is more demanding. The group described in #2 of the definition of entitlement - those who are a "member" of the elite group who have a card supplied by a government program - or those who have insurance and are insistent that they are entitled to pay nothing. The stories are too numerous to tell, so I will relay only one story to

illustrate my point.

Part of my responsibility is to call clients when their order is ready and schedule an appointment for pick-up. Appointments were scarce for the month of November as there was a holiday that inhibited the amount of deliveries that time would allow. All available appointments had been filled. I had to book into the following month. I called the clients. I explained the situation. He is irate. He wants his appointment! He wants it NOW! I offer him delivery into other locations. He is having none of it. How dare I think he is going to drive 30 minutes! He refuses. He states, "He is entitled to get his shoes! He has to have them NOW!" Then we go from irate to the pity party: wah, wah, wah. How am I going to not have my shoes? I can't walk. It is so interesting because he must have shoes somewhere as a means to get around without the pair we have! I repeatedly apologized, but he hears none of it. He ends the call by hanging up on me while I am speaking (sounds rather immature, doesn't it? If I don't get my way, I'll just hang up!) Then, I think it's over, but it isn't. The next day, a physician calls the office, insisting that the client have a delivery appointment for the next day. The client called the physician and complained, getting his way after all with no regard for the overworked practitioner, the office staff, who in reality, did all they could to get him an appointment as soon as possible. He didn't care what kind of an impression he left the office staff and the business itself. The doctor stated, "The client would accept an appointment in another location." When I offered that option, he adamantly refused. I truly believe he would have resorted to getting one of us fired to get what he deemed his entitlement.

So people out there, what are your entitlement issues? Are you one of

*(Continued on Page 15)*

# THE STORY OF HANNAH

## A MESSAGE FOR WOMEN WITH A VISION

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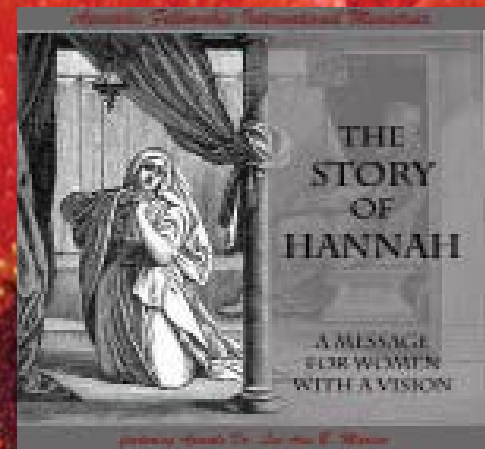
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# History Makers

Celebrating great women in history

## Junia

(New Testament Era, AD)

Junia was an Apostle in the first century. According to Romans 16:7, Junia was a part of an apostolic team with Andronicus. We are able to identify Andronicus as a male relative, although whether he was a husband, brother, cousin, etc. is up for debate. We know very little about Junia, except for the fact that she is clearly identified as an apostle, and she was of outstanding reputation among the apostles. We can also see that Junia was an apostle in Christ, serving before the Apostle Paul.

From what we know of Junia, we can identify two important things: 1) Women are called to leadership because they always have been, and 2) Women can be of outstanding reputation in the ministries God calls them to.

As history wore on, Junia's name was deliberately mistranslated in Bible manuscripts to the name Junias. This transition from a female

name to a male name came as women were deliberately excluded from formal church ministry. In order to justify this exclusion of competent, called women, and isolate them in convents, Junia became Junias so no one would ever think a woman could be an apostle or leader in the church.

Thanks to modern discoveries and studies into the ancient languages, the truth about Junia has come forth. Even though she was hidden and buried for nearly 2,000 years, the invincible spirit of this female apostle continues to shine forth and inspire female apostles and women in ministry, even to this very day.

May every female apostle be truly called and of note for their stellar work in Christ, outstanding among all apostles.

Quotable quote: *"Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Jews who have been in prison with me. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was."* - Romans 16:7, NIV (2010)

*The Right To Entitlement*

(Continued from page 13)

the entitled elite? Do you feel entitled? I don't know where the spirit of entitlement comes from, but I know it is not good. It is abusive and battering to others. We are privileged to know Christ. It is our honor to be loved by God. He owes us nothing. We are humbled in His presence. I hope you heed this observation and look into your spirit as to where you are regarding this issue. Your attitude and spiritual conduct are spread to all you come in contact with. The issue of entitlement makes one ugly and self-righteous - not a good image for God's people to present to the world.



**Nina B. Marino, RN, LNC is the overseer of the Apostolic Fellowship International Ministries branch office in Oneonta, New York. She is also Director of the Attachment Disorder**

**Help & Resource Network, a Registered Nurse, and Legal Nurse Consultant. To contact Nina, send an email to [nmarinolnc@hotmail.com](mailto:nmarinolnc@hotmail.com).**

*The entitlement state has driven us into insolvency.*

*- Joe Miller*

## WHEN JESUS RETURNS

(Continued from page 4)

good teacher. This is one notable advance!

Jesus' return has the distinct air of royalty. In ancient times, much as today, heads of state and other dignitaries never travelled on their own. Jesus' return with angels of heaven, trumpeter's fanfare, and a gathering of His people shows forth a true people, aware of Who He is and prepared for His coming.

At the same time, Revelation 1:7 tells us, **“Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of Him.” So shall it be! Amen.”** (NIV) EVERYONE will know Jesus has returned. It won't be a secret, there won't be time to rewind, but EVERYONE will see our Lord and Savior returning in power and judgment. There will be no fringe group followings! Everyone will know of His return and that He has returned, especially as other events unfold making His presence even more clear.

### Jesus as judge

Most people prefer to regard Jesus as an infant because they do not like to think of Him as a Judge. Jesus is returning to judge all people (Micah 4:3). Revelation 20:4-6 tells us: **“I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.”** Jesus, as the Resurrection and the Life, is qualified to serve as judge for dispute and sin alike. Everyone will be accountable for their deeds, good or bad. His justice will be swift, powerful, and exact. There will be no questions or do-overs; but the clear reality of

our lives and His influence (or lack thereof over us).

In this passage, we also see another relevant reason why God's people must recognize Christ: they shall be appointed as judges with Him. If we are busy looking to the wrong things or wrong images of Christ, we can't be His people prepared to rule and reign with Him!

### Jesus as warrior

The last main way we see Jesus in the second coming is as a warrior. To some, a loving Savior and a warrior are a contradiction, not to mention scary or intimidating. As we fight for those we love, so too Jesus fights for us against our enemy, Satan. We have no reason to fear Jesus' warrior stance if we are in right standing with Him, ready to fight alongside in battle. In the Kingdom of God, we are not just called to serve our Savior passively, but actively, and recognize the power in spiritual warfare. As we are called to battle, so too is Jesus.

One of the most often discussed, debated, and controversial battle gatherings ever to occur in history is prophesied to occur when Jesus returns. Revelation 16:12-16 tells us: **“The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East. Then I saw three impure spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. They are demonic spirits that perform signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty. ‘Look, I come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed.’ Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.”** (NIV) When the world comes to fight, Jesus will stand, ready to rise to the challenge.

### Knowing the Savior

For thousands of years cultures, religions, and societies have portrayed Jesus in certain ways. We can see Jesus in any stage of development, at any age, on earth, and in heaven. The image of Jesus has been impressed upon holidays, church walls, pictures, statues, and

beyond. In more modern times, Jesus' image has been used to sell a pop-culture type phenomenon on T-shirts, pins, skateboards, music videos, and other aspects of media. While I truly think it's fantastic we see Jesus in so many different ways and in so many different places, wearing a picture of Jesus on a T-shirt or standing on His head while skateboarding doesn't indicate a true knowledge of Him. Every year at Christmastime, the world makes Jesus a lawn decoration and an excuse to over-spend, without truly coming to know Him or the power of His resurrection.

When Jesus returns, whether or not we know Him will be a focal point. It is essential we recognize His humanity and divinity in the fullness of all He is. No longer will He be a baby, no longer will He return to suffer for sins, and no longer will He tolerate the nonsense so rampant in this world today. If we are a people recognizing our times and preparing to meet our Savior, why don't we take some time to know Him? Jesus is a returning King, Savior, Judge, Warrior, and true Friend. As we study the Word and commit ourselves to Him, we come to a deeper love and understanding of Him and His nature.

JESUS IS COMING SOON...Are you ready?

**Apostle Dr. Lee Ann B. Marino, Ph.D., D.D. is Apostle in Office for Apostolic Fellowship International Ministries. To contact Lee Ann regarding speaking engagements or conference hosting, please contact us at 1 (919) 397-9122 weekdays 9 AM-5 PM (EST) or anytime via [drleeannmarino@powerfortoday.org](mailto:drleeannmarino@powerfortoday.org).**





## Encouragement For The Journey Thoughts to help you through!

- *The cyclone derives its powers from a calm center. So does a person. - Norman Vincent Peale*
- *You must admit you have self-control before you can use it. - Carrie Latet*
- *What makes resisting temptation difficult for many people is they don't want to discourage it completely. - Franklin P. Jones*
- *I bid you conquer in your warfare against your four great enemies, the world, the devil, the flesh, and above all, that obstinate and perverse self-will, unaided by which the other three would be comparatively powerless.*
- *- Augustus William Hare and Julius Charles Hare, Guesses at Truth, by Two Brothers, 1827*
- *An element of abstention, of restraint, must enter into all finer joys. - Vida D. Scudder*
- *If passion drives you, let reason hold the reins. - Benjamin Franklin*
- *Opportunity may knock only once, but temptation leans on the doorbell. - Author Unknown*
- *Most people want to be delivered from temptation but would like it to keep in touch. - Robert Orben*

*Interview With Dr. Ezekiel Edumoh, Part 2*

*(Continued from Page 12)*

of people around the world through the ministry of WWOMI.

Rebecca Michael says-

You are the founder and Chaplain General of ICCC Chaplaincy organization. Can you tell us how this came about and is developing for current and future plans?

*We keep asking ourselves,  
"What can we do for our  
people?"*

*- Ezekiel Edumoh*

Ezekiel Edumoh says-

ICCC came to being 6 years ago to help teach Nigerians and indeed Africans true patriotism. We keep asking ourselves, "What can we do for our people?" ICCC is recruiting members all over the world to help in times of emergency, and in times of need. We are strategizing to set up a training ground where men and women, boys and girls are properly given orientation to enable us give services to the masses without thinking of remunerations. It is completely a voluntary service.

*Stay tuned for Part 3 of this interview in next month's edition of Power For Today Magazine!*



**Apostle Dr. Rebecca Michael is Apostle for Phoenix Alive Christian Ministries, Inc. in Maple Ridge, BC. She has over two decades in education, mental health, and many years experience in ministry. She is also**

**an independent songwriter/producer, publishing blues, rock, and Gospel. To contact Apostle Dr. Rebecca, visit her website at <http://PhoenixHorizons.webs.com>.**

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## LIGHT FOR THE PATH YOU'RE ON

Two well worn bills arrived at the Federal Reserve Bank to be retired - a twenty and a one. As they traveled down the conveyor belt, they struck up a conversation. The twenty reminisced about the interesting life he had, traveling all over the country. "I've been to the finest restaurants, Broadway shows, Las Vegas, Atlantic City," he said. "I

even want on a Caribbean cruise. Where have you been?"

"Oh," said the one dollar bill, "I've been to the Methodist church, the Episcopal church, the Lutheran church."

"What's a church?" asked the twenty.



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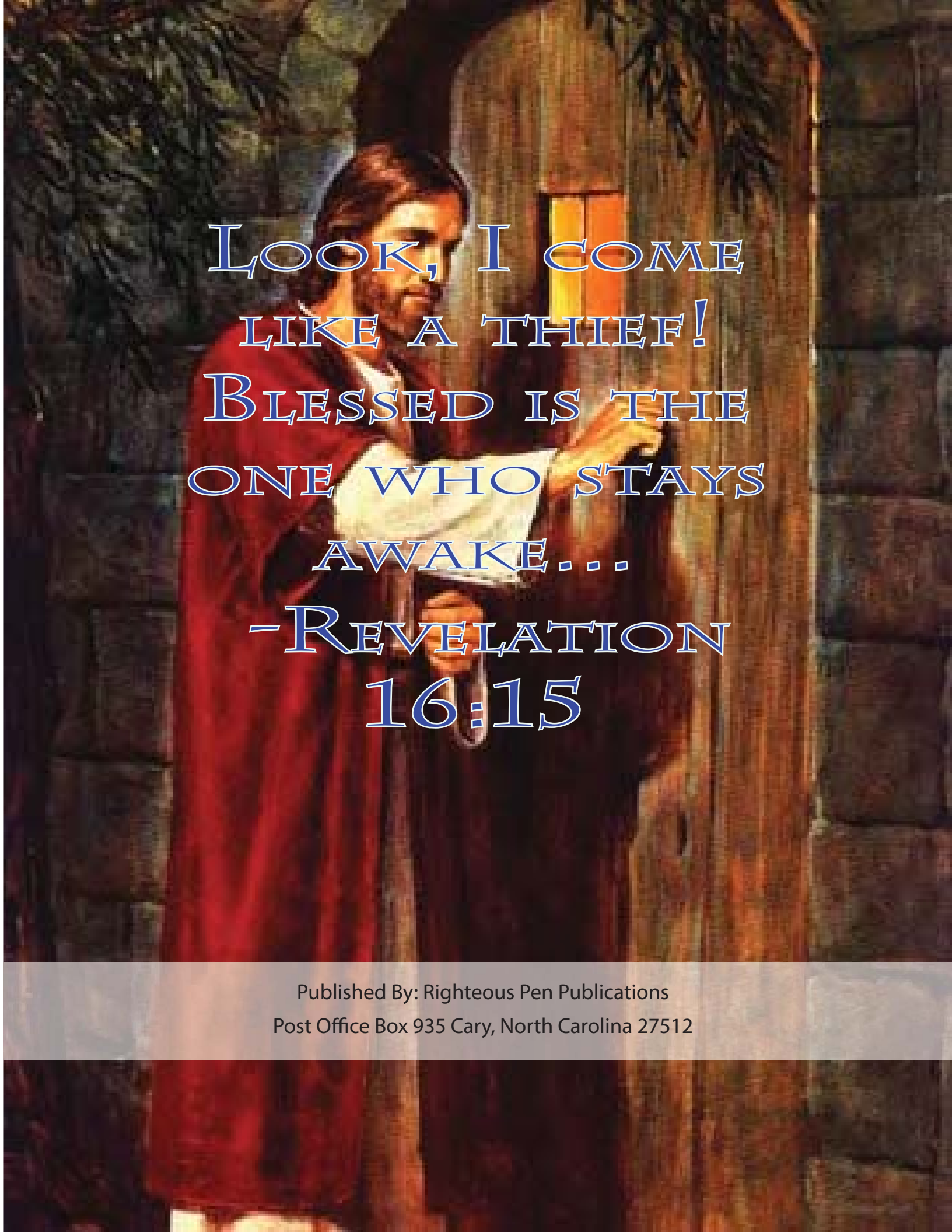
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Puzzle Answers

NO PUZZLE ANSWERS THIS MONTH



LOOK, I COME  
LIKE A THIEF!  
BLESSED IS THE  
ONE WHO STAYS  
AWAKE...  
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16:15

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